

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

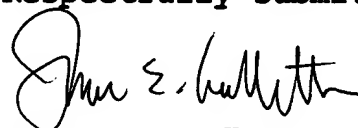
Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Final Rejection that claims 1-8, 14-24, 26, 28, 29, 32, 33, 39, and 40 are allowed.

Claims 9-13 and 38 have been canceled.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 31, 2005
JEL/DWW/att

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